IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus, comprising:

a separating unit operable to separate an input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

a setting unit operable to set a bit rate of an output multiplexed stream;

a controller operable to control coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream, said current bit rate of said second stream being extracted from said input multiplexed stream;

a coding unit operable to reencode said first stream under said coding conditions; and

a multiplexing unit operable to multiplex said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

2. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions by determining a bit rate difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate of said reencoded first stream.

3. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 2, wherein said coding conditions include at least one of said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

4. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said coding conditions are also based on said first stream information.

5. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

6. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said controller is operable to control said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

7. (currently amended) A method for reencoding an input multiplexed stream to provide an output multiplexed stream, said method comprising:

separating said input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

setting a bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

controlling coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream, said current bit rate of said second stream being extracted from said input multiplexed stream;

reencoding said first stream under said coding conditions; and

multiplexing said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

8. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions by determining a bit rate difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate of said reencoded first stream.

9. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein said coding conditions include at least one of

said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

10. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said coding conditions are also based on said first stream information.

11. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

12. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said controlling step controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

13. (currently amended) A recording medium recorded with a computer readable program for reencoding an input multiplexed stream to provide an output multiplexed stream, said computer readable program comprising:

separating said input multiplexed stream into a first stream comprised of first stream information and a second stream comprised of stream information other than said first stream information;

setting a bit rate of said output multiplexed stream;

controlling coding conditions for reencoding said first stream on the basis of a current bit rate of said second stream and said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream, said current bit rate of said second stream being extracted from said input multiplexed stream;

reencoding said first stream under said coding conditions; and

multiplexing said reencoded first stream and said second stream to produce said output multiplexed stream.

14. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions by determining a bit

rate difference between said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream and said current bit rate of said second stream, said bit rate difference being set as a maximum bit rate of said reencoded first stream.

15. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 14, wherein said coding conditions include at least one of said bit rate difference and a video frame size.

16. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said coding conditions are also based on said first stream information.

17. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a fixed bit rate.

18. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said controlling step of said program controls said coding conditions so as to reencode said first stream at a variable bit rate.

19. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

20. (cancelled).

21. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein said setting unit is operable to set said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.

22. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes

information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

23. (cancelled).

24. (previously presented) A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein said setting step sets said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.

25. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said first stream information includes video stream information and said second stream information includes information selected from the group consisting of audio information, still image information, character information, pattern information, and multimedia encoding information.

26. (cancelled).

27. (previously presented) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said setting step of said program sets said bit rate of said output multiplexed stream at a variable bit rate.

28. (new) An information processing apparatus as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a decoding unit operable to decode said separated first stream information, wherein said coding unit is operable to reencode said decoded first stream information.

29. (new) A method as claimed in claim 7, further comprising decoding said separated first stream information, wherein said reencoding step reencodes said decoded first stream information.

30. (new) A recording medium as claimed in claim 13, wherein said method further comprises decoding said separated first stream information, wherein said reencoding step reencodes said decoded first stream information.